

No. F. 48 (i)-Econ/48.

MINISTRY OF FINANCE

ECONOMY COMMITTEE

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

New Delhi, the 30th November, 1948.

From

G. S. Rau, Esquire,
Secretary, Economy Committee.

To

The Secretary to the Government of India,
Ministry of Finance, New Delhi.

Sir,

I am directed to forward herewith a copy (with three spare copies) of the Interim Report of the Economy Committee on the Ministry of External Affairs and Commonwealth Relations. Shri S. K. Patil is out of the station but has given his approval to the report, and his signature will be affixed to it on his arrival at Delhi.

The recommendations in the Report have been made after detailed discussions with the officers of the Ministry, who have had an opportunity to see the Report in draft and they represent the limit to which the Committee has considered it possible to meet the views of the Ministry.

A separate report will be sent on the establishment of the office of the High Commissioner, London, after an officer of the Committee has had an opportunity to examine in London, the office as already proposed in the d.o. letter No. F. 30(8)-Econ/48, dated the 25th October, 1948, from the Chairman to the Hon'ble the Finance Minister.

Yours faithfully,
G. S. RAU.

MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS AND COMMONWEALTH RELATIONS

The Ministry of External Affairs and Commonwealth Relations is responsible for the conduct of India's relations with all countries outside the borders of India both within the British Commonwealth and outside. Before the attainment of independence by this country there was an External Affairs Department which worked, for all practical purposes, as an agent of His Majesty's Government in the United Kingdom and was responsible for conducting the foreign relations of the British Empire including India with the countries on India's frontiers, Persia and Arabia. Also there was a Commonwealth Relations Department which was responsible for the conduct of relations between India and other parts of the British Empire. The Ministry of External Affairs and Commonwealth Relations was formed by the amalgamation of those two Departments; but with the disappearance of the British Government's control over India's foreign affairs, there is a radical alteration in the nature of the Ministry's duties and responsibilities.

INDIA'S FOREIGN MISSIONS

2. *Number and Location.*—The establishment of direct diplomatic relations with foreign countries is an inescapable consequence of India's new status. Particularly in the present international situation, India cannot isolate herself from the rest of the world except to her own disadvantage and peril. We fully appreciate the desire of the Ministry of External Affairs and Commonwealth Relations to carve out a place for India in the family of nations which is in consonance with the importance of this country, her culture and her traditions. Yet we are amazed at the speed at which missions have been established in foreign countries during the last year. Before the 15th August 1947 India had diplomatic representatives outside the British Empire only at Washington and Chungking; besides she had High Commissioners or Officers of equivalent status in London, South Africa, Australia, Ceylon and Singapore. At present missions have been established in 18 places outside the British Commonwealth (32, if we include Consulates-General, Consulates, etc.). India has agreed to open missions in four more countries but has not yet been able to fulfil the undertaking because of lack of personnel. Besides, there are 13 missions in Commonwealth countries. With regard to the opening of new missions, the Foreign Secretary explained that on receipt of a request from a foreign country, a decision is taken whether in the light of the political, commercial and cultural relations between the two countries, and the need for protecting Indian interests a mission should be established in that country. We should have thought that the proper approach to the problem would have been for Government to decide in the first instance the countries in which it was necessary in India's interests to have diplomatic missions. An important point in such an examination would have been whether our diplomatic representative in one country could not, from our point of view, adequately discharge work not only in the country to which he is accredited but also in some of the adjacent countries whether formally accredited to those countries or not. We cannot help observing—and we are fortified in

our conclusion by a study of the places in which diplomatic representatives have been appointed—that Government's decisions to open many of the missions have been influenced more by the desirability of reciprocating the friendly gesture of the country concerned rather than by any immediate necessity for establishing such a mission. The opening up of new missions requires experienced personnel and involves expenditure of money. The altered political status and the problems that have arisen in the wake of the partition have made heavy demands on the available manpower. India may be a large country but it would be unwise to ignore that it is also a poor country. In our view, Government should have proceeded more cautiously with the opening of these foreign missions. We have given careful consideration to the commitments which have already been made on behalf of Government to establish missions in foreign countries and to the embarrassment and difficulties that are likely to arise if any commitment is not honoured. But, considering the present economic situation, we recommend that notwithstanding the commitments already entered into, the establishment of missions at the Hague, Stockholm and Rome should be postponed for at least three years. We also recommend that no new missions should be established in any foreign country for the next three years, save in very special circumstances.

3. *Establishment.*—We are glad to note that the establishments in our foreign missions are on the whole on a reasonable scale. In three embassies *viz.* Kabul, Rio de Janeiro and Washington, there is provision for the appointment of a Cultural Relations Officer (the post at Washington is yet unfilled). We have questioned the representatives of the Ministry of External Affairs and Commonwealth Relations with regard to the necessity of such posts and are satisfied that these posts can be abolished without detriment to efficiency. They should be abolished forthwith. Cultural Relations Officers should not be appointed in any of our other missions until the country's financial position improves considerably.

4. *Office of Indian High Commissioner in London.*—The office of our High Commissioner in London stands in a class by itself. Because of the past relationship between this country and His Majesty's Government in the United Kingdom our High Commissioner in London discharges many functions which have no counterpart in any of our other missions. It is, therefore, to be expected that the High Commissioner should require a staff comparatively larger than the staff in any other mission. But a cursory examination of the organisation and establishment of that office disclosed the need for further detailed investigation into the working of the office. We have already had occasion to recommend elsewhere that the set-up of the Education Department in this office was on an extravagant scale and the number of Education Liaison Officers should be reduced from 22 to 5. Our recommendations with regard to the rest of this office will follow later.

We would, however, like to mention one point which requires immediate action. The Cipher Organisation in the High Commissioner's Office in the U. K. is staffed almost entirely by non-Indians. We doubt whether such a position exists in any other foreign mission in the world. It was explained that it has not been possible for the Ministry to train as yet Indians to staff the cipher organisation. The coding and decoding of messages is a comparatively simple matter and persons with a fair knowledge of English could be trained in the work within a period of

about three months. We strongly recommend that immediate steps should be taken to staff the cipher organisation in London and in all our other foreign missions exclusively with Indian nationals.

5. Salaries.—For purposes of fixation of salaries, the posts of Heads of Missions and their senior staff should be assigned to the prescribed grades in accordance with the importance of the mission.

6. Allowances.—Every Government servant who is employed in a foreign mission is entitled to free furnished accommodation at Government expense. In addition, he is given a consolidated allowance which compensates for the cost of living, rate of exchange and expenditure on entertainment which he must incur in view of his official status. We have compared the allowances given to our embassy staff in various countries with those given by the United Kingdom to its officers of corresponding grades and are glad to find that they are reasonable. The quantum of allowances taken by themselves may appear to be large but if the missions are to render any useful work, the officers must maintain a certain standard. However, we understand that a circular has recently issued directing that no alcoholic drinks should be served in any official or semi-official function organised by our representatives abroad. We are doubtful of the advisability of such a circular. The usefulness of our diplomatic representative abroad depends largely on their social contacts which, in view of the customs and manners prevailing in the country concerned, involve offering hospitality including drinks. We should direct our missions abroad to offer entertainment according to the usage of the country concerned and to the best method of creating social contacts. If, however, Government intend to adhere to the directive already issued, we recommend that the existing allowances should be re-examined with a view to their reduction. An appreciable proportion of the allowances is intended to meet expenditure on entertainment which should diminish if drinks are not to be offered.

It has come to our notice that there have been instances in the past of extravagant expenditure in some of our missions on travelling, purchase of cars, etc. We have been told that it has now been decided that Government will provide 1st class missions with a Cadillac or a Deluxe Buick and for other missions a Buick or any other suitable car. The Ministry of External Affairs and Commonwealth Relations are also taking steps to frame rules to regulate the grant of travelling allowances, medical facilities, scale of accommodation, etc. We recommend that these matters, which are now pending for over a year, should be finalised as quickly as possible and regulations framed, as that is the best way to prevent wasteful expenditure on this account.

7. Delegation to foreign countries.—The Government of India send a large number of delegations every year to conferences overseas. The strength of each delegation is usually large. We have consulted the representatives of the Ministry of External Affairs and Commonwealth Relations on the necessity of such large delegations and learn that considerable savings can be effected both in the number of delegates and the duration of their stay abroad. It should be the responsibility of the External Affairs and Commonwealth Relations Ministry to ensure that the composition of every delegation sent out from this country, whether by the Ministry of External Affairs and Commonwealth Relations or sponsored by it on behalf of any other Ministry, is as economical as possible.

EXTERNAL PUBLICITY.

8. 'External Publicity' was recently transferred from the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting to the Ministry of External Affairs and Commonwealth Relations on the ground that external publicity is closely interlinked with foreign policy, which is the responsibility of the Ministry of External Affairs and Commonwealth Relations. 'External Publicity' involves first a study of what is being said in other countries about India and Indian affairs, secondly the formulation of policy to encourage appreciation of the Indian point of view or suitable refutation of adverse criticism and thirdly execution of the policy thus decided upon. The Information Officers in our foreign missions and the Monitoring Service of the All India Radio are responsible for the first stage. The job of an Information Officer requires a special flair and in order that the work may be done properly suitable persons from the Information Officers' pool of the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting should be chosen for the purpose. Also the officers in order that they may not lose contact with Indian affairs should be interchangeable with officers in India. As regards the second stage, while the Ministry of External Affairs and Commonwealth Relations must necessarily take the leading part in framing policy, the assistance of the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting will be essential as that Ministry alone can supply the raw material for counter-propaganda. The execution of policy will again be largely for the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting. They have to prepare the material for supply to our Information Officers abroad. If broadcasting is the medium to be used, the All India Radio will have to help. Again if films are to be used for this purpose the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting will have to manufacture the films required. For efficient and economic administration, therefore, 'external publicity' should remain with the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting. In order to frame policy, there should be a Board composed of representatives of the Ministries of External Affairs and Commonwealth Relations and Information and Broadcasting and of such other persons as may be considered necessary.

It has been urged that when 'external publicity' was in the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting the work was not done satisfactorily. But we were given no reasons why this should be so or how the situation would improve by a mere transfer of the work to the Ministry of External Affairs and Commonwealth Relations. We can only conclude that any inefficiency in this respect in the past cannot be due to any defect in organisation but to other reasons e.g., inefficiency of personnel, defective control by the Policy Control Board etc.

It has also been argued that the transfer of the 'external publicity' section to the Ministry of External Affairs and Commonwealth Relations will not result in any extra expenditure. This argument is incorrect. Immediately there is a very small increase in staff but with the functions divided between two Ministries, the staff in both the Ministries will soon be found inadequate and there will be demands for extra staff in both wings. Secondly, there will be an appreciable increase in expenditure under 'contingencies'. 'External Publicity' to function effectively will require an up-to-date Research and Reference Section which must have a well-equipped library and must secure newspapers and other periodicals of world importance. In fact there is a proposal to divide equally the existing Research and Reference Section between the two Ministries. Such a division in our view will result in reducing the utility of the

Section. We will be recommending elsewhere that the Research and Reference Sections even in the various branches of the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting should be centralised.

We, therefore, recommend that 'external publicity' should be restored to the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting.

9. Publicity Officers.—A statement (annexure IV) is annexed showing the places where Publicity Officers have already been appointed or are proposed to be appointed. Normally, the staff employed in our embassy or legation in any country may be expected to discharge the routine duties regarding publicity. A separate officer is justified only where the importance of a mission and the volume of work to be done justifies the appointment of a specialist. In our view, it should be possible to dispense with the posts of Information Officers at Paris, Prague, Moscow, Shanghai, Bangkok and Saigon. Publicity in the continent of Europe outside the Soviet sphere of influence could be made the responsibility of the Publicity Officer at Berne, supplemented by supply of publicity material to our missions at other places without any special staff. While we realise the necessity for publicity in Russia and Czechoslovakia, we understand that local political conditions prevent our publicity officers in those countries from functioning effectively. It is, therefore, no use appointing Publicity Officers in these countries until there is a change in the political situation.

10. Foreign Correspondents in India.—We believe our 'external publicity' in a large measure is concerned with preventing a misrepresentation abroad of events occurring in this country. It would be of great advantage if foreign correspondents could be induced to give a true account of events in India in their proper perspective. The responsibility of looking after Foreign Correspondents in India still continues with the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting. This work is really a part of 'external publicity' and as we have recommended that external publicity should be with the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting, we agree that that Ministry should continue to be responsible for the work. We wish to emphasise, however, that immediate steps should be taken to ensure that foreign press correspondents are given all reasonable facilities both regarding their stay in this country and for obtaining news. Any mis-representation or misconception should be, as far as is possible, removed at this end by personal contact and discussion. Tactful handling of foreign correspondents in this country will reduce materially expenditure on foreign publicity.

NORTH EAST FRONTIER TRIBAL AREAS.

11. The Ministry of External Affairs and Commonwealth Relations is also responsible for the administration of the tribal areas on the North-East Frontier. This tract has an area of about 30,000 sq. miles and is inhabited by about 650,000 tribal people who had been left till recently to live their own lives without any outside interference.

In the year 1946 the then Government for its own reasons had decided to adopt a 'forward' policy in these areas and had prepared a five year plan at an estimated cost of Rs. 130 lakhs on capital account and Rs. 103 lakhs recurring for the opening up of these areas and establishment of civil administration. Whatever may be the reasons that influenced the previous Government, it is clear to us that a national Government must take all necessary action to extend to these areas the benefits of civilised

administration and to help the people to take their rightful place in the community.

12. The five year plan still forms the basis of Government's actions but it suffers from serious defects. Firstly, the cost of the development plan is seriously underestimated. One road which was stated in the plan to cost Rs. 26 lakhs is now expected to cost over a crore of rupees. The total cost on account of roads is likely to be about Rs. 2 crores against the original estimate of Rs. 60 lakhs. Secondly, the local authorities consider that material alterations are needed in the roads and hospitals programme in the plan. Thirdly, certain parts of the plan cannot obviously be even started within the duration of the plan. For example, the scheme provides stipends for tribal people from the tribal areas or from the adjacent 'excluded' and 'partially excluded' areas to study medicine, veterinary science, etc; but there are no persons with the minimum educational qualifications required for such training. Fourthly, the plan envisages separate cadres for the tribal areas in certain departments, which is bound to result in an inefficient administrative set-up. Again the administrative procedure is defective. Though the working season commences from 1st October and lasts for six months only, the Engineering Organisation which consists of one Superintending Engineer, two Executive Engineers and nine sub-divisional officers had even in the last week of September received practically no orders for executing works in the current season.

13. The authorities are conscious of the drawbacks in the five year plan but no effort has been made to revise it. It is essential that Government (particularly the Ministry of Finance) should be put in the picture as early as possible regarding the total financial commitments involved in developing the area. The plan should be prepared carefully and lay down the directions in which development should take place and the time-table of development. Once a policy decision is taken, there should be sufficient delegation of powers to local authorities to enable them to go ahead with the work with all speed. The present system under which there is no settled plan and every item of work involving an expenditure of more than Rs. 20,000 requires a reference to the Centre is wasteful and is most unlikely to produce quick results. In framing the revised plan, we suggest for consideration of Government that—

- (a) the Lohit Valley road scheme may be deferred for the time being and attention concentrated on carrying out and completing this season (1948-49) the roads in Tirap, the Pasighat-Pengin road in the Abor Hills and bridle paths according to the original plan in the Subansiri Agency;
- (b) the construction of hospitals, particularly the base hospital at Posighat, should be speeded up;
- (c) the organisation of a Forest Department and the exploitation of forests should be deferred until the country is opened up;
- (d) there should be a greater delegation of financial powers to the local authorities to enable them to push on with work. The present limit of Rs. 20,000 over the Governor's power of sanction could be raised to Rs. 100,000 if only because of the increase in the general level of prices.

14. Two minor points that require mention are the expenditure on portage and transport. The Adviser on tribal areas to the Governor of

Assam is now framing rules to regularise the use of Government Transport. These rules should be finalised quickly and the transport expenditure reviewed after the rules have been in force for about three months. The 'Porter Corps' is intended to carry supplies to the outposts. At present there are no data available to assess the volume of work the 'Porter Corps' is to do or to check whether the money provided for the purpose is properly utilised. The quantities of supplies to be carried and the distances over which they have to be carried can be ascertained fairly easily. It should be possible to lay down the work to be handled by a porter and to determine the strength of a Corps on a rational basis.

15. *Assam Rifles*.—The Assam Rifles are maintained to preserve law and order in the tribal areas. Present conditions are abnormal and we do not wish to make any comments on the expenditure incurred in such circumstances. But enquiries made show that the Assam Rifles cost much more than the Assam Special Armed Police and almost as much as the Infantry. We suggest for the consideration of Government that the expenditure on the Assam Rifles should be brought down to the level of Assam Armed police; or if for administrative reasons it is considered desirable to spend more on the salaries and equipment of the Assam Rifles to consider whether the standard of their training could not be improved so as to make them as efficient as an Infantry unit. In the latter case, it may be possible to do with smaller number of men and thus effect economy. Also, Government will no doubt review the strength of the Assam Rifles once units of the National Cadet Corps and of the Territorial Army are raised and trained in Assam.

16. *Recovery of advances granted to evacuees of Indian origin from Burma, Malaya and other places in the Far East*.—The Government of India advanced a sum of nearly Rs. 12 crores to Indians who came over as refugees to India from Burma, Malaya and other places in the Far East. These advances are recoverable. We are surprised to find that the Ministry have not made any serious effort to recover these advances; they do not even have information as to the progress of the recoveries. Admittedly, the amount recovered is very small. Government must first come to a policy decision whether, notwithstanding that these advances were classified as recoverable, all the advances made should be recovered. In respect of persons whose monthly income at present is less than Rs. 100 per month and who have no other ostensible means, Government would be well advised to write off the amounts. In the case of others, a vigorous drive to recover the advances should be launched so as to complete the recoveries within a year. We have been informed that there are over 45,000 people who have returned to Burma and who are well off and we estimate that a considerable proportion of these advances is recoverable. A system of remuneration to persons employed on collection on the basis of recoveries made may be found to be advantageous.

17. *Haj*.—The Ministry is responsible for making arrangements for Haj pilgrimage by Muslims. The present annual expenditure on Haj is about Rs. 59,000. The Ministry is assisted in this work by the Central Haj Committee which has recommended that Government should continue to provide these facilities. We are doubtful of the advisability of spending Government funds to provide facilities for a particular community but considering that this service has been provided in the past, we recommend that the Ministry may continue to do so subject to the condition that the expenditure on this account shall not exceed Rs. 60,000 per annum.

18. Set-up of the Ministry.—We have examined the set-up of the Ministry and consider that it should be as in Annexure I. However, the distribution of work shown therein is illustrative only. Our recommendations are based on the following considerations:—

- (a) The External Affairs and Commonwealth wings of the Ministry should be integrated completely into a single organisation as in any other Ministry.
- (b) The post of Secretary General is one that has no place in the organisation of any Ministry. A Secretary is the recognised administrative head of a Ministry and it is difficult to visualise an intermediary between the Secretary and the Minister, without interfering with the duties and responsibilities of the Secretary. We are of the opinion that no administrative post above that of a Secretary should be created to intervene between a Secretary and a Minister. Where any Ministry requires the assistance of a particular individual possessing special knowledge or experience to deal with a particular problem, it should be possible to make an *ad hoc* arrangement to secure the services of such person for a limited period.
- (c) There is no justification for the post of Legal and Treaties Adviser. The Honourable Minister for Law is the recognised adviser to Government on legal matters and he will not be able to discharge those functions if Ministries have their own legal advisers. Secondly other Ministries besides the Ministry of External Affairs and Commonwealth Relations require advice on matters of international law e.g., the Ministries of Communications and Commerce. It is the function of the Ministry of Law to provide for this common service. The post of Legal and Treaties Adviser should be abolished and whatever advice on legal matters the Ministry of External Affairs and Commonwealth Relations may require should be obtained from the Ministry of Law.

The existing set-up of the Ministry is given in Annexure II.

19. The Ministry of External Affairs and Commonwealth Relations contend that in order to discharge their work efficiently, the existing staff of 1 Secretary General, 1 Secretary, 1 Additional Secretary, 4 Joint Secretaries, 7 Deputy Secretaries and 25 Under/Assistant Secretaries should be increased by two Joint Secretaries, six Deputy Secretaries and 4 Under Secretaries. The gap between our recommendations and the demands of the Ministry is appreciable but arises mainly from the desire of the Ministry to employ high-powered Officers to do comparatively low-grade work. Thus, the Secretary and Additional Secretary are intended to act as a link between the Minister and Joint Secretaries. A Joint Secretary is justified only if he relieves the Secretary of a block of work on which he takes orders of the Minister directly, though the Secretary would be kept abreast of important events for purpose of over all co-ordination. Otherwise posts of Joint Secretary should be replaced by posts of Deputy Secretary. Again, it appears that the Ministry's demands are based on the assumption that a direct recruit with about an year's service will be an Under Secretary. But the responsibilities and duties of an Under Secretary can be justified from the fact that ordinarily he should be a top-rank University product, who has received training in his duties for at least five to six years. We have given careful consideration

to the views of the Ministry of External Affairs and Commonwealth Relations and are satisfied that the staff recommended by us is sufficient provided the distribution of work is properly organised and powers suitably delegated.

20. The annual savings that are expected from the above recommendations would be about Rs. 17,19,000, details of which are given in Annexure III.

21. *Summary of Recommendations.*—The following is a summary of our main recommendations:—

- (a) The establishment of Missions at the Hague, Stockholm and Rome should be postponed for at least three years. No new Mission should be established in any foreign country for the next three years, save in very special circumstances. (Para. 2).
- (b) Cultural Relations Officers should not be appointed in any of our foreign Missions. The posts of Cultural Relations Officers at Kabul and Rio de Janeiro should be abolished. (Para.).
- (c) Non-Indians should not be employed in cipher work in any of our foreign Missions. Immediate steps should be taken to replace by Indians the non-Indians employed in the cipher organisation of the office of our High Commissioner in London. (Para. 4).
- (d) Various foreign Missions should be divided into three suitable classes for purposes of fixing the salaries of heads of Missions and their staff. (Para. 5).
- (e) Unless it is proposed to revise the policy with regard to the serving of alcoholic drinks in parties organised by our representatives abroad, the quantum of allowance given to them for purposes *inter alia* of meeting expenditure on entertainment demands review. (Para. 6).
- (f) Early steps should be taken to frame rules to regulate the grant of travelling allowances, medical facilities, scale of accommodation and furnishings etc., to the Heads of Indian Missions in foreign countries and their staff. (Para. 6).
- (g) It should be the responsibility of the Ministry of External Affairs and Commonwealth Relations to ensure that the composition of every delegation sent from this country to a foreign country is as economical as possible. (Para. 7).
- (h) 'External Publicity' should be located in the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting. (Para. 8).
- (i) The posts of Publicity Officer (whether Principal Information Officer, Information Officer or Assistant Information Officer) at Paris, Prague, Moscow, Shanghai, Bangkok and Saigon should be abolished. (Para. 9).
- (j) It is necessary to make arrangements to ensure that foreign press correspondents in India are given all reasonable facilities both regarding their stay in this country and for obtaining news. The Ministry of Information and Broadcasting should be responsible for this. (Para. 10).
- (k) The five year plan for the development of the North-East Frontier Tribal Areas should be revised in the light of the suggestions contained in paragraph 13.

- (l) The organisation of the Assam Rifles requires review in the light of the comments made in paragraph 15.
- (m) Government should arrive at a policy decision as to the extent they will recover the advances granted to evacuees of Indian origin from Burma, Malaya and other places in the Far East. A vigorous drive should be launched to recover the advances except those that are written off. (Para. 16).
- (n) The expenditure on providing facilities for Haj pilgrims should be limited to Rs. 60,000 per annum. (Para. 17).
- (o) The set-up of the Ministry of External Affairs and Commonwealth Relations should be as suggested in Annexure I. (Para. 18).

KASTURBhai LALBHAI, *Chairman.*

B. DAS

S. K. PATIL

JAIPAL SINGH

ISHWAR DAYAL

Members.

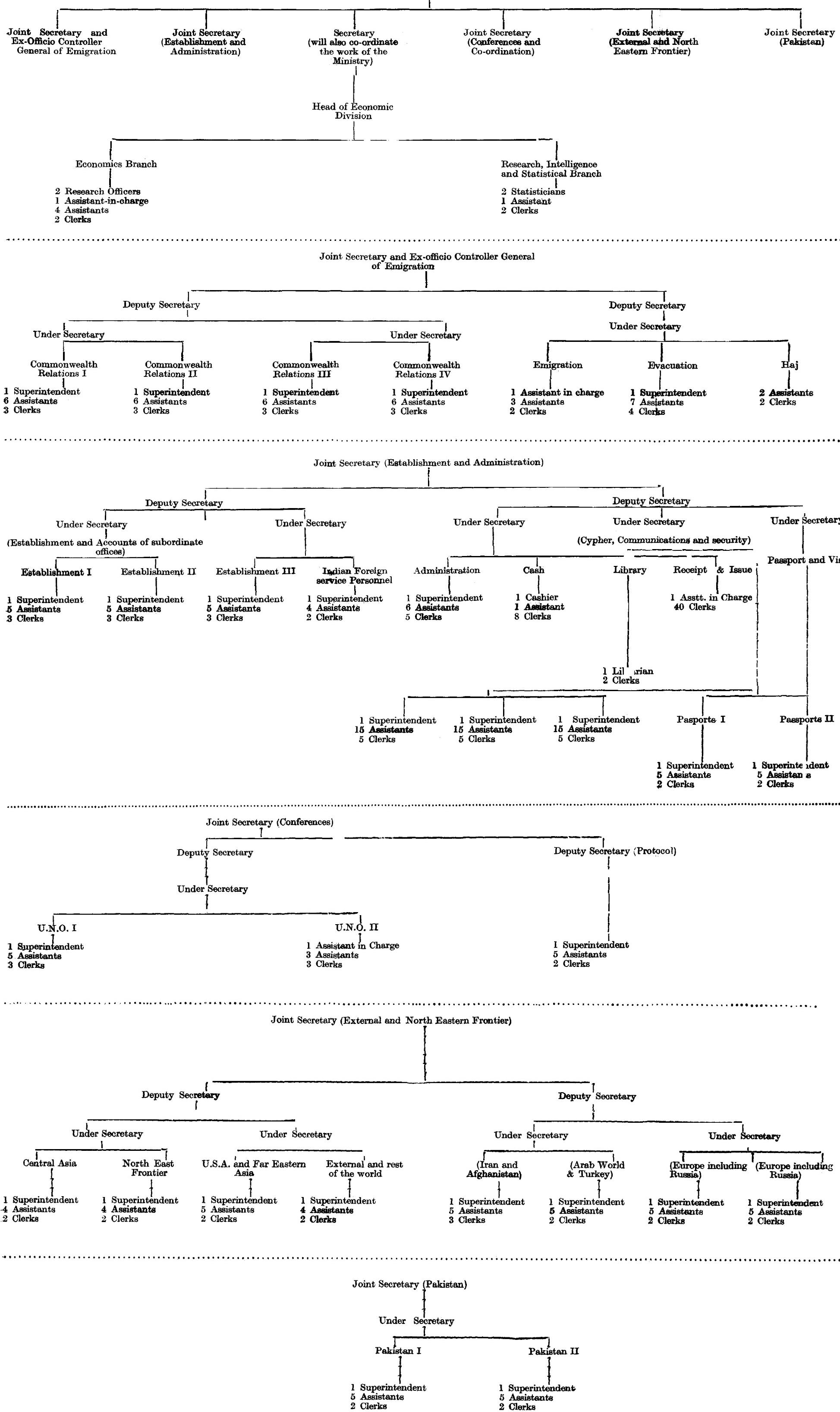
P. V. R. RAO *O. S. D.*

G. S. RAU, *Secretary.*

New Delhi, the 30th November 1948.

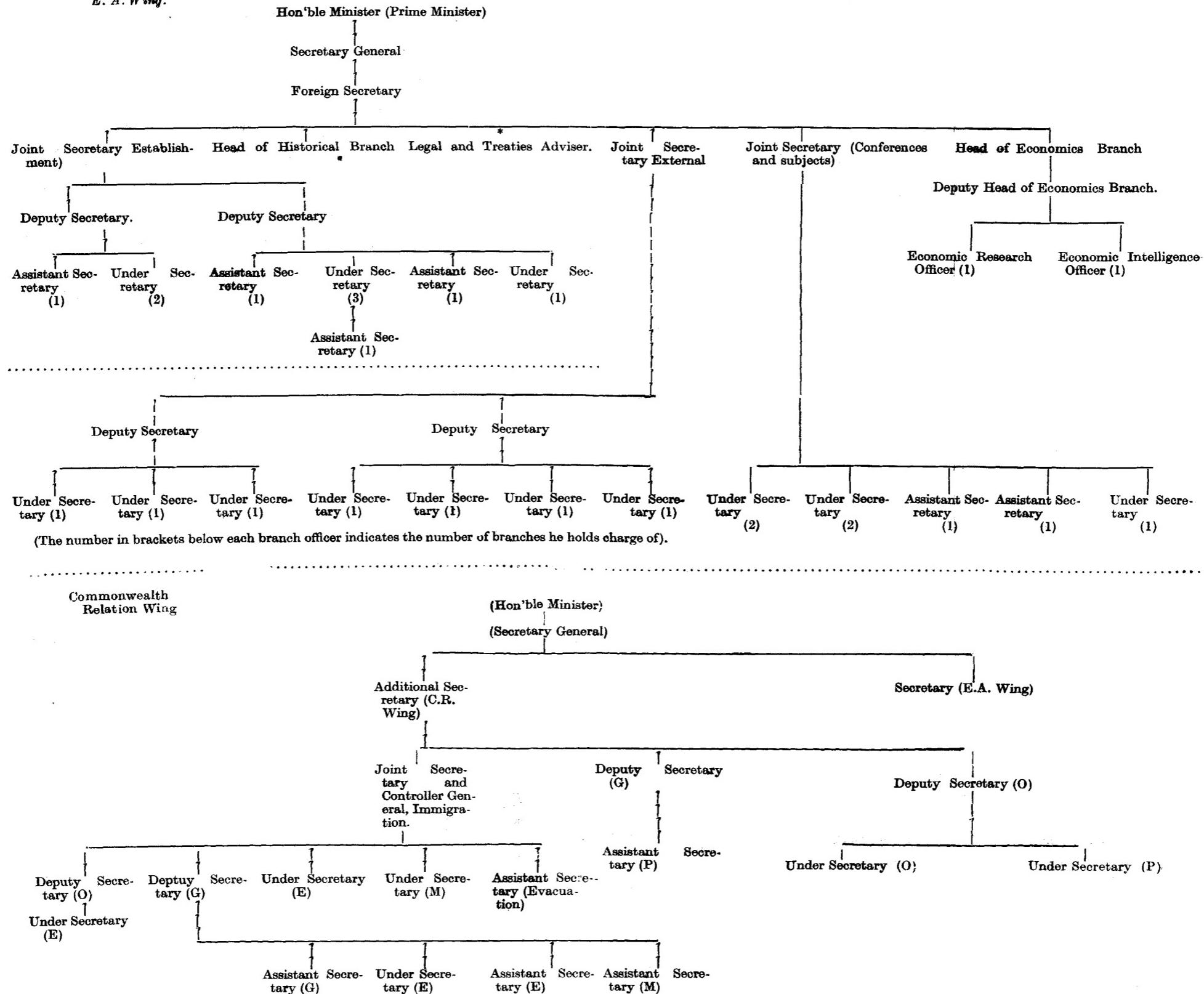
ANNEXURE I.—(para 18)
proposed set up of the Ministry of External Affairs and Commonwealth Relations

Hon'ble Minister—Private Secretary to H.M.



Existing set-up of the Ministry of External Affairs and Commonwealth Relations

E. A. Wing.



Note.—Joint secretary (Establishment) is common to both the Commonwealth Relations and External Affairs wings. All cases relating to overseas establishments and secretariat establishments pertaining to Commonwealth Relations Wing are submitted to Joint Secretary (Establishment).

ANNEXURE III. (para. 20)

Savings in the Ministry of External Affairs and Commonwealth Relations.

Designation of Post	Strength			Approximate annual savings.
	Present	Proposed	Reductions	
Rs.				
Secretary	1	1	..	
Additional Secretary	1	..	1	
Joint Secretary	4	5	—1	
Legal and Treaties Adviser	1	..	1	
Deputy Secretary	7	8	—1	
Under/Assistant Secretary	25	14	11	
Deputy Principal Information Officer	1	..	1	
Information Officer	1	..	1	
Assistant Information Officers	3	..	3	
Head of Economic Division	1	1	..	
Private Secretary to Secretary	1	1	..	
Research Officers	2	2	..	
Superintendents	37	27	10	
<hr/>				
Total (Gazetted)	85	59	26	2,20,000
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Assistant-in-Charge	2	4	—2	
Assistants	244	182	62	
Librarian	1	1	..	
Statisticians	2	2	..	
Clerks	206	139	67	
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Total (Non-Gazetted)	455	328	127	1,65,000
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GRAND TOTAL	540	387	153	3,85,000

Note.—(i) Telephone Operators and staff car drivers will remain as at present.

(ii) The strength of stenographers and class IV personnel will be fixed separately.

Rs.

Savings in the Ministry.

Pay of Officers and Staff	3,85,000
Allowances, Honoraria and Other Charges	2,00,000
Total	5,85,000

Abstract of Savings.

	B.E. for 1948-49	Approximate Savings
	Rs.	Rs.
I. Ministry Proper	36,04,000	5,85,000
II. Savings on schemes and other items which have been provided for in the Budget for 1948-49 and recommended to be postponed, abolished or otherwise curtailed.		
(a) Abolition of the posts of Cultural Relations Officers at Kabul, Rio de Janeiro and Washington.	54,000*	54,000
(b) Abolition of the posts of Publicity Officers at Paris, Prague, Moscow, Shanghai, Bangkok and Saigon.	80,000*	80,000
(c) Postponement of Establishment of Missions at the Hague, Rome and Stockholm.	10,00,000*	10,00,000
Total of II	11,34,000	11,34,000
Total of I and II	47,38,000	17,19,000

(*These figures are only approximate, as in the Demands for Grant 1948-49 only a lump sum provision has been made for some of the items.)

ANNEXURE IV. (Para. 9)

*List of places where India has Publicity Officers.***I. Asia—**

(1)	(2)
Offices already functioning	Offices in process of formation.
Kabul	Ankara
Tehran	Tokyo
Jeddah	Shanghai
Nanking	Bangkok
Batavia	Saigon
Rangoon	Colombo
Singapore	Dacca
Karachi	
Lahore	

II. Africa—

(1)	(2)
Nairobi	Johannesburg
Cairo	

III. Australia—

Canberra

IV. Europe—

(1)	(2)
London	Paris
Moscow	Geneva
	Prague

V. American Continent—

(1)	(2)
Washington	San Francisco
New York	West Indies
Ottawa	Rio de Janeiro
	Buenos Aires

